21. (Amended) A device for reducing power consumption in infrared-enabled appliances having a power supply and transceiver system forming a circuit including a switch, comprising:

a discovery signal receiver and power actuator module, said module configured to interpret and recognize incident Ir discovery signals and [responsively]activate said switch responsive to said interpretation and recognition, where the incident discovery signals are essentially IrDA compliant.

22. (Amended) The device of Claim 21, wherein said discovery signal receiver and power actuator module further comprises:

an infrared receiver; and

discovery signal detection circuitry configured to interpret and recognize infrared discovery signals incident to said receiver and responsively emit a power-up signal to said switch.

29. (Amended) A system for reducing power consumption in infrared-enabled appliances having at least one power supply and at least one transceiver system forming a circuit, comprising:

a low power standby module for detecting incident infrared signals and interpreting said incident signals that are essentially-IrDA-compliant Ir discovery signals, said circuit being responsive to said low power standby module[means].

34. (Amended) The system of Claim 32, wherein said power-up signal is generated by said low power standby power module in response to said detection of an incident infrared signal and interpretation of said signal as being an essentially-IrDA-compliant infrared discovery signal.

35. (Amended) A method for reducing power consumption in infrared-enabled appliances having a power supply and a transceiver system forming a circuit, comprising:

powering down said transceiver system to a low power standby state;

detecting at least one incident [essentially IrDA-compliant Ir discovery signal]infrared signal;

interpreting said at least one incident infrared signal as being an essentially IrDA-compliant discovery signal and

powering up said transceiver system to a full power state.

38. (Amended) The method of Claim 36, wherein said detecting and interpreting is performed by a discovery signal receiver and power actuator module.

39. (Amended) The method of Claim 38, wherein said detecting and interpreting is performed by a discrete discovery signal receiver and power actuator module.

40. (Amended) The method of Claim 38, wherein said detecting and interpreting is performed by a discovery signal receiver and power actuator module that is integral to said transceiver system.